

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANTIA 02543 292030Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----292032Z 033521 /41  
O 291900Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4109

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 2543

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: CI SOPN  
SUBJECT: FILIPPI REQUEST FOR AN INTERVIEW WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 64445

1. IN OUR JUDGMENT, THERE WOULD BE A RISK OF SOME SORT OF REPRISAL IF THE VICE PRESIDENT SHOULD GRANT AN INTERVIEW TO EMILIO FILIPPI. EVEN IF THERE WERE NONE, AN INTERVIEW MIGHT CREATE SUFFICIENT BAD FEELING WITHIN THE JUNTA TO PREJUDICE FOR A TIME THE PROSPECTS FOR ANY NEW POLICY STEPS THE ADMINISTRATION MAY WISH TO TAKE WITH RESPECT TO CHILE. HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO INDICATE OUR GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE PRINCIPLE OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND FOR ITS ADHERENTS, WE RECOMMEND THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN, THE SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL HANDLING EXCLUSIVELY INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS, OFFER TO SEE FILIPPI.

2. OBVIOUSLY WE CANNOT ESTIMATE THE PRECISE DEGREE OF DANGER WHICH WOULD CONFRONT FILIPPI AND THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADERS IF THE VICE PRESIDENT SHOULD EMPHATICALLY REITERATE THE USG LINE WITH RESPECT TO HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN SOUTH AMERICA. WE REGARD AS RATHER UNLIKELY THE POSSIBILITY OF ANY DIRECT RETALIATORY STEPS. BUT A  
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MONDALE INTERVIEW, IF IT SHOULD COINCIDE WITH OTHER ABRASIVE DEVELOPMENTS, COULD TIP THE CLOSE BALANCE WITHIN THE JUNTA IN FAVOR OF SOME SORT OF A GENERAL CRACKDOWN FOCUSING ON THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP. AT THE LEAST, IT WOULD TEMPT THE JUNTA DEFINITELY TO BAN THE APPEARANCE OF "HOY" -- A POINT CURRENTLY STILL OPEN.

3. AN INTERVIEW BY A SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL WOULD WHEN  
PUBLISHED HERE STRENGTHEN THE POPULAR CONSCIOUSNESS OF  
THE U.S. POSTURE ON CHILEAN HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES. BUT  
THAT FACTOR IS ALREADY CLEAR ENOUGH TO EVERY KNOWLEDGEABLE  
CHILEAN. THUS, WE BELIEVE A BETTER BALANCE CAN BE  
STRUCK BETWEEN THE PROS AND CONS IN THIS MATTER IF AN  
INTERVIEW COULD BE ARRANGED BETWEEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
TODMAN AND FILIPPI, AS SUGGESTED ABOVE.  
POPPER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PLANNING MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Subject:** FILIPPI REQUEST FOR AN INTERVIEW WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT  
**TAGS:** SOPN, CI, (MONDALE, WALTER F), (FILIPPI, EMILIO)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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